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9. RECORD OF THE PAINTED KALOULA *KALOULA TAPROBANICA* IN ANDHRA PRADESH

The painted kaloula, *Kaloula taprobanica* Parker, is a medium sized (5.0-8.0 cm) frog that prefers urban areas and open forests (Daniels 1997). The species is reported from Assam, West Bengal, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu (Dutta 1997). The species has not been reported from Andhra Pradesh, though reported from its four bordering states (Orissa and Madhya Pradesh in the north, Karnataka to the west and Tamil Nadu to the south) (Daniel 2002, Dutta 1997).

During our studies on the herpetofauna in Sriharikota Island, Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh, we found the species to be one of the most common frogs on the Island. Sriharikota borders Tamil Nadu, and records of the species in this State are from its eastern areas (Daniels 1997). Specimens have also been collected from the suburbs of Chennai (Tambaram) in 1966 (Giri *et al.* 2001) c. 80 km south of Sriharikota. Though

close to Chennai, our record of the species in Sriharikota deserves attention, as the species has not been recorded from Andhra Pradesh. Additionally, the record is significant due to the insular nature of the landmass, with the Bay of Bengal to the east and Pulicat Lake on its northern, eastern and southern borders. There is also a possibility of the species occurring in other coastal areas to the north of Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.

A voucher specimen has been deposited in the BNHS Collection, Regn No. BNHS 4190.

May 14, 2003

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